

Gensler

ARCHITECTURAL PROJECT DIRECTOR – CHICAGO

Gensler is seeking a talented and innovative architect for a leadership position in its Chicago office. The primary responsibilities of the Project Director will be leadership of project teams focused on design and delivery of large-scale urban architectural projects, as well as development of client relationships and opportunities for new and repeat business.

For Gensler, successful buildings capture the spirit of their surroundings, even as they assert their own identity. They're visually appealing, healthy, comfortable, flexible, secure, and efficient – a pleasure to be in. And they pay their way, adding real value for their owners and users.

Gensler architecture reflects their knowledge of how people and organizations use and experience place and space. They work collaboratively with clients, communities, and end-users to create buildings that work well on every level, inside and out. They deliver them across their global markets with a consistently high standard of service.

Representative market segments for the North Central Region, based in Chicago, include: Commercial Office, Corporate Headquarters, Education, Health & Wellness, Hospitality, Master Planning & Urban Design, Mission Critical, Mixed-Use/Entertainment, Retail Centers, Science & Technology, and Sports.



Panduit, Tinley Park IL
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ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY

Gensler is organized around a highly collaborative studio leadership model, reflecting our core values and working style. From a management point-of-view, a Gensler Studio must successfully combine design, development, and key elements of practice management, including client marketing strategies, business development, client relationship management, financial sustainability, and delivery of professional services – focusing on creation of value for the client and the firm.

Accordingly, a Project Director is part of the Studio's senior leadership team that is responsible for integration of design, management, and technical expertise. A Project Director works in concert with Design Directors and other studio leaders to achieve goals related to project quality and process, while satisfying client requirements – a hallmark of all Gensler projects. A Project Director has primary responsibility for building and sustaining relationships that lead to new commissions and continuing business with clients, and during the course of a project, will be responsible for management of the client relationship, as well as management of project teams that may include a range of consultants and collaborators, both internal and external.

As a member of a Studio's senior leadership team, a Project Director based in the Chicago office will also collaborate with other practice leaders within the North Central Region and across the platform of the firm in order to develop projects that achieve distinctiveness and recognition for clients and the firm.

POSITION REQUIREMENTS

Candidates for the position should have a commitment to providing high-quality professional design services for their clients, as well as experience working within a creative and collaborative client-focused design environment. Experience working within the USA and internationally is preferred.

Candidates should have experience that demonstrates the capability to build client relationships, lead and mentor personnel, and achieve successful results with a high level of quality, productivity, and profitability.

Candidates should be versatile, self-motivated, and articulate; be experienced in working successfully with others; and have excellent communication skills.

The position requires a bachelor's degree (or higher) in architecture or urban design. In addition, it requires at least 15 years of architectural experience, of which at least five years has been in management and development of client relationships and leadership of project teams on large-scale urban architecture projects.

Candidates should be licensed architects, and since Gensler places a high priority on sustainable design, LEED professional accreditation is preferred.

In order to be considered for employment, candidates must be currently eligible to work in the United States and should be able to travel within and outside the USA. Fluency or proficiency in languages in addition to English is particularly advantageous.

Specific experience should include:

- A portfolio demonstrating completed, relevant projects for which the candidate was directly responsible for management of the client relationship and project team. Relevant projects include architectural projects for clients in the commercial, corporate, education, and mixed-use market segments.
- Experience developing relationships with new and existing clients that would enhance Gensler's competitive advantage and positioning in targeted market sectors.
- Experience in the development and direction of large-scale, programmatically complex, urban architectural projects, including those with "design excellence" criteria.
- Experience with collaborative management of an architectural practice group or studio.

- Proven leadership skills, including the ability to develop collaborative relationships that lead to successful results, whether within the firm (and across the platform of multiple offices) or externally – with clients, consultants, and other key participants in the design and development process.
- Proven ability in creative strategy development and innovative problem-solving.
- Management approach and methodology consistent with collaboration, consensus, and process-oriented design.
- Strong presentation skills (written, oral, and graphic), with the ability to be articulate and convincing in interviews and other presentations.
- A commitment to the principles of sustainable design and experience integrating them on specific projects.
- Familiarity with AutoCAD and experience with BIM and Revit are also advantageous.

Leadership skills include:

- Demonstrate leadership by motivating employees to enable them to reach their individual potential.
- Maintain a positive team environment by creating programs to boost morale.
- Provide staff members with an “open-door policy” to allow individuals to feel free to communicate with you and other members of the management team.
- Build staff capabilities through programs that improve individual skills and develop improved management and communication.
- Provide a creative, innovative and nurturing environment through your department by developing an effective coaching/mentoring program.
- Demonstrate ability to effectively communicate both orally and in writing.

Gensler is an Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/D/V.

Please forward your resume with a cover letter outlining your reasons for applying for the position, along with your salary history.

To apply for this position:

Please submit the following materials to gnc@talentstar.com:

- ▶ A dated **cover letter**, briefly summarizing your background and experience, as well as your objectives in applying for the position.
- ▶ A clear, concise, current **resume**, including contact information (and email address). We would also appreciate additional information such as links to your website, online portfolio, blog, Architizer, or Facebook pages if applicable.
- ▶ A representative summary of your **work**, submitted in digital format. This should include the name and location of your projects, your role on the project, and the firm for whom you worked.

All materials should be submitted as PDF documents and will not be returned.

We will acknowledge receipt of all applications within a one-week period. We will contact those candidates with whom we would like to move forward, requesting additional examples of your **portfolio**, as well as **professional references**. (Please do not submit your full portfolio, references, or letters of recommendation until requested.)

If you should have any questions regarding these criteria or the process for review and selection, please contact Marjanne Pearson at 510.452.1460 or gnc@talentstar.com.